

*Executive Proclamation*  
*State of South Dakota*  
*Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, John and Millie Gross exchanged their wedding vows on June 26, 1955, in Madison, South Dakota; and,

*Whereas*, John and Millie gave life and love to three children: Kathy, Allen and John, who in turn blessed them with nine grandchildren; and,

*Whereas*, John and Millie are South Dakota State University graduates and faithful alumni; and,

*Whereas*, John and Millie have lived in Madison their entire married life, are long time members of the United Methodist Church and are very active in their community; and,

*Whereas*, Through their lifelong dedication to the values of caring and sharing, John and Millie have helped make South Dakota a great place to live and work; and,

*Whereas*, Their family will come together for an open house at the Elks Club in Madison on July 2, 2005, to honor and celebrate 50 years of marriage of a devoted couple who has shared life's beauty and sorrow and have grown to love one another more because of their common journey; and,

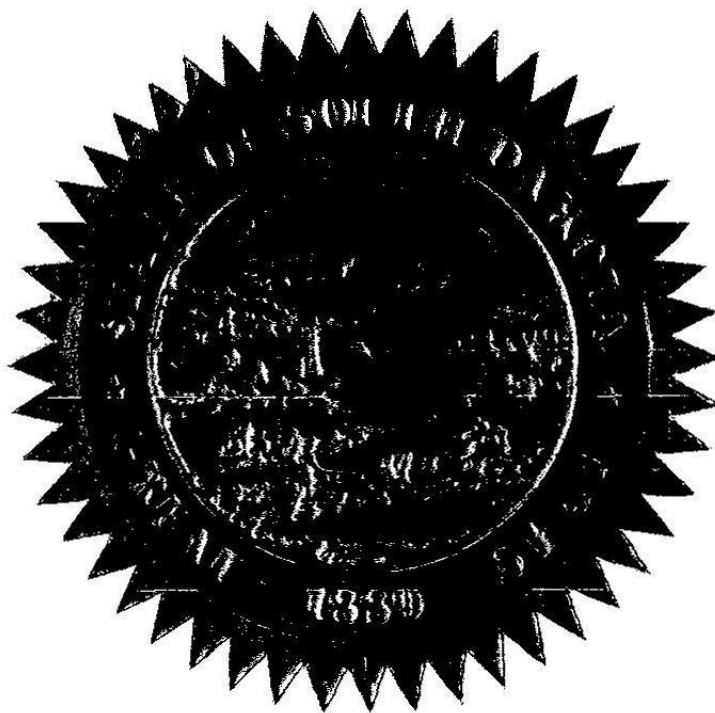
*Whereas*, It is altogether fitting and proper that the Governor of South Dakota recognizes and commemorates the memorable milestones in the lives of the state's outstanding citizens:

*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 26, 2005, as

*JOHN AND MILLIE GROSS DAY*

in South Dakota, and I join with the honored couple's family and friends in wishing them continued health and happiness in a state that stands prouder today because of their contributions and commitment.

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twentieth Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.



*M. Michael Rounds*  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

*Chris Nelson*  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State